

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-14 Cancelled

15. (New) A method for rendering suitable for storage a material that is not, on its own, stable upon storage at ambient temperature, said method comprising:

a. providing an aqueous mixture of

i) a pharmacologically active, therapeutic material selected from the group consisting of proteins, peptides, nucleosides, nucleotides, dinucleotides, and oligonucleotides, and

(ii) a carrier that is water-soluble or water-swellable, and, that when anhydrous, can exist as a glass with a glass transition temperature (T_g) above about 20° C,

b. spraying into a hot gas stream at an inlet temperature from 80° C to 300 ° C droplets of the aqueous mixture from (a),

c. drying said droplets by passage through said gas stream to form a powder,

d. optionally subjecting the powder from (c) to further drying, to thereby obtain as a result of steps (a) through (c), a glassy powder having a moisture content from about 3% to about 9% by weight and a T_g above about 30° C.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of determining the T_g of the glassy powder of step (d).

17. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said aqueous mixture is a solution.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said aqueous mixture is a suspension.

19. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said inlet temperature ranges from 100 ° C to 300° C.

20. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said inlet temperatures ranges from 100° C to 250 ° C.

21. (New) The method of claim 15, comprising the step of subjecting the powder from c. to further drying.

22. (New) The method of claim 15, comprising the step of subjecting the powder from c. to further drying at sub-atmospheric pressure.

23. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the glassy powder from step d. has a Tg above 50 ° C.

24. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier, when anhydrous, possesses a Tg of at least about 40° C.

25. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier, when anhydrous, possesses a Tg of at least about 50° C.

26. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier, when anhydrous, possesses a Tg from about 50° to 200 °C.

27. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said gas stream comprises air.

28. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said gas stream comprises nitrogen.

29. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said carrier comprises at least 20% by weight of the glassy powder.

30. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said carrier comprises at least 30% by weight of the glassy powder.

31. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said carrier comprises at least 50% by weight

of the glassy powder.

32. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier is a polyhydroxy compound.

33. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrates, sugars, proteins and protein hydrolysates.

34. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrate derivatives, chemically modified carbohydrates, synthetic polymers, and sugar copolymers.

Q₁ 35. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said carrier comprises a mixture of carriers that are each water-soluble or water-swellaable, and, that when anhydrous, can exist as a glass with a glass transition temperature (T_g) above about 20° C.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein said mixture of carriers are miscible as a solid solution.

37. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said aqueous mixture contains from about 10 to 250 grams per litre of the carrier.

38. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of storing the glassy powder at ambient temperature for a period of at least 30 days.
